

## CLAIMS:

1. A network comprising a plurality of subnetworks which can each be connected via bridge terminals and each include a controller for controlling a subnetwork, which controller is provided for shifting the frame structure of its subnetwork to at least a frame structure of another subnetwork.

2. A network as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a controller is provided for lengthening frames or for inserting an unused phase between successive frames up to a prescribed frame difference relative to the frame structure of the other subnetwork.

3. A network as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a controller is provided for shortening frames up to a prescribed frame difference relative to the frame structure of the other subnetwork.

4. A network as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a controller of a first subnetwork is provided for shortening frames, and at least a controller of another subnetwork is provided for lengthening frames or for inserting an unused phase between successive frames up to a prescribed frame difference of the frame structures of the two subnetworks.

5. A network as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a controller of a subnetwork is provided for communicating with at least another controller of another subnetwork regarding the type of shift.

6. A network as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a bridge terminal is provided for instructing the controllers of the subnetworks connecting them as to which controller is to carry out a shift and in which direction.

7. A controller in a subnetwork which can be connected to other subnetworks of a network via bridge terminals, the controller being provided

- for controlling a subnetwork and

- for displacing the frame structure of its network relative to at least one frame structure of another subnetwork.

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